[Docket No.: ED-2013-ICCD-0036]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Application for Grants Under the Predominantly Black Institutions Program

AGENCY: Department of Education (ED), the Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE)

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a revision of a previously approved information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [insert the 60th day after publication of this notice].

**ADDRESSES:** Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a> by selecting Docket ID number ED-2013-ICCD-0036 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or e-mail and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ, Room 2E105, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Electronically mail <a href="mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov">ICDocketMgr@ed.gov</a>. Please do not send comments here.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Application for Grants Under the Predominantly Black Institutions Program

OMB Control Number: 1840-0812

Type of Review: an extension of a previously approved information collection

Respondents / Affected Public: Private Sector

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 35

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 700

Abstract: The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 amended Title III, Part A of the Higher Education Act to include Section 318 - The Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI) Program. The PBI Program makes 5-year grant awards to eligible colleges and universities to plan, develop, undertake and implement programs to enhance the institution's capacity to serve more low- and middle-income Black American students; to expand higher education opportunities for eligible students by encouraging college preparation and student persistence in secondary school and postsecondary education; and to strengthen the financial ability of the institution to serve the academic needs of these students. The Department will use the data collected in the PBI Application to evaluate the projects submitted by the specified institutions of higher education and to determine allowable multi-year project expenses based on statutory requirements.

Dated: March 19, 2013.

Stephanie Valentine, Acting Director Information Collection Clearance Division Privacy, Information and Records Management Services Office of Management

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